

WELCOME

August 16, 2026

Worship Theme

**BELIEVERS WILL
STRUGGLE
WITH SIN**

Pastor Brian Roloff



OPENING HYMN: #818

My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone (VS.1-3)

V1. My soul finds rest in God alone,
my rock and my salvation;
a fortress strong against my foes,
and I will not be shaken.

Though lips may bless and hearts may curse,
and lies like arrows pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness,
I'll look to him who hears me.



Refrain:

O praise him, hallelujah,
my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing,
my Redeemer, my God.

V2. Find rest, my soul, in God alone
amid the world's temptations;
when evil seeks to take a hold,
I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come and riches go,
don't set your heart upon them;
the fields of hope in which I sow
are harvested in heaven.

Refrain:

O praise him, hallelujah,
my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing,
my Redeemer, my God.

V3. I'll set my gaze on God alone
and trust in him completely;
with ev'ry day pour out my soul,
and he will prove his mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath,
a sigh too brief to measure,
my king has crushed the curse of death
and I am his forever.

Refrain:

O praise him, hallelujah,
my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing,
my Redeemer, my God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand

P: In the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PSALM OF REPENTANCE: Psalm 32:1-5

P: Blessed is he whose transgressions
are forgiven,

C: whose sins are covered.

P: Blessed is the man whose sin the
Lord does not count against him

C: and in whose spirit is no deceit.

P: When I kept silent, my bones
wasted away

C: through my groaning all day long.

P: For day and night your hand was
heavy upon me;

C: my strength was sapped as in the
heat of summer.

P: Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover my iniquity.

C: I said, "I will confess my
transgressions to the Lord" —
and you forgave the guilt of my
sin.

CONFESSION OF SINS



P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us approach the Lord with sincere hearts and confess our sins to God our Father, that He might, for the sake of Jesus Christ, grant us forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we come to you, seeking your mercy and imploring your grace, for the sake of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only begotten Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Heavenly Father, you have given us a new heart and a new nature through your Word and Sacraments. Continue to strengthen our faith so that we may ceaselessly struggle against sin and temptation, until you forever free us from this fight through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 4:20-27



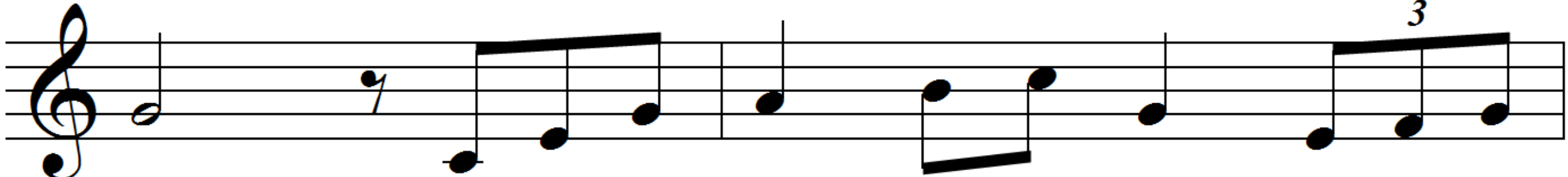
My son, pay attention to what I say;
listen closely to my words.
Do not let them out of your sight,
keep them within your heart;
for they are life to those who find them
and health to a man's whole body.
Above all else, guard your heart,
for it is the wellspring of life.

Put away perversity from your mouth;
keep corrupt talk far from your lips.
Let your eyes look straight ahead,
fix your gaze directly before you.
Make level paths for your feet
and take only ways that are firm.
Do not swerve to the right or the left;
keep your foot from evil.

SUNG RESPONSE: We Are an Offering



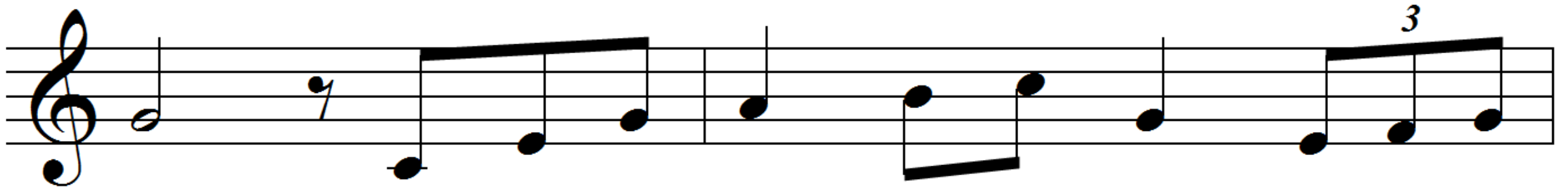
We lift our voic-es, ___ we lift our



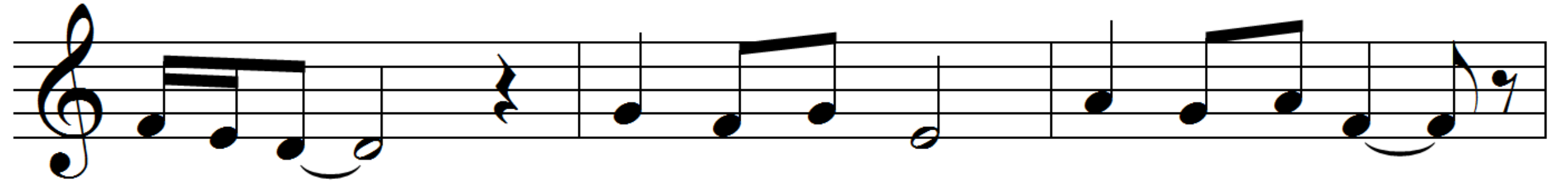
hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an



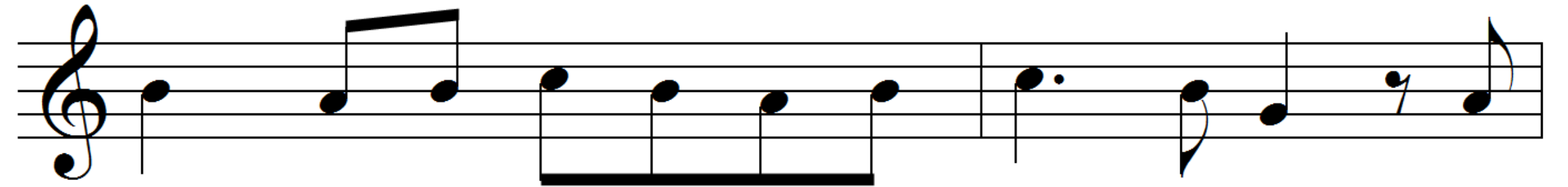
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, ___ Lord, use our



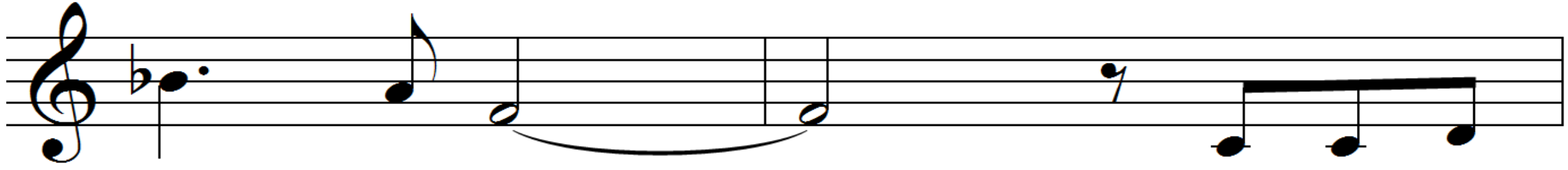
hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours, we are an



of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,



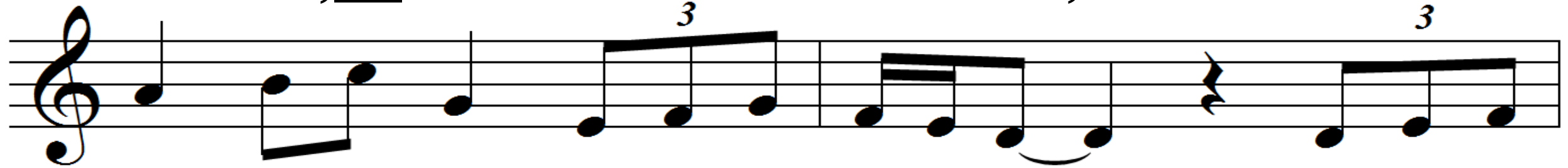
all that we hope to be, we give to You, we



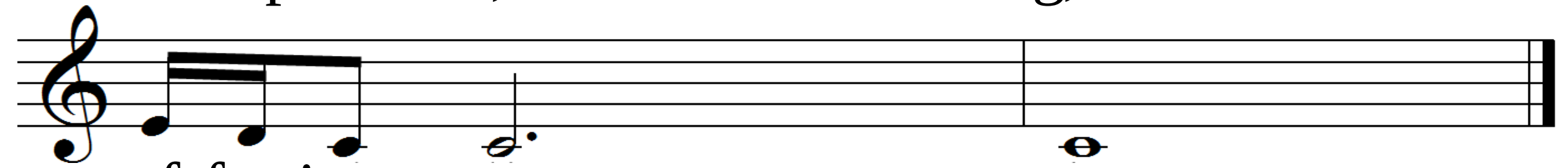
give to You. _____ We lift our



voic-es, _____ we lift our hands, we lift our



lives up to You, we are an of-fer-ing, we are an



of-fer-ing. _____

THE WORD

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 5:27-30



“You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away.

“It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.”

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON HYMN: #651 In Hopelessness and Near Despair (VS.1-4)

V1. In hopelessness and near despair,
I cry to you, my Savior!
My guilt is more than I can bear,
I have not earned your favor.
You know me as I really am:
how much is truth, how much is sham;
why should you heed my pleading?



V2. I see my heart's condition now,
my heart's diverse affections.

Why do I love the things you loathe?

I'm torn in two directions:
now prodigal, now Pharisee,
O God, be merciful to me;
who else but you can help me.

V3. I tremble as I feel your hand,
expecting retribution,
yet hear no curse of reprimand,
but grace and absolution.

With you there is forgiveness, Lord;
you speak the sweet, consoling word,
and I am sure you love me!

V4. Forgiven, free of guilt and shame,
grant me some time to render
a gift to glorify your name,
love to reflect your splendor.

This world must know what I have learned,
that you bestow what none has earned:
the joy of full forgiveness!

THE WORD

SERMON TEXT:

Romans 7:14-25

(ESV)



For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

HOLINESS

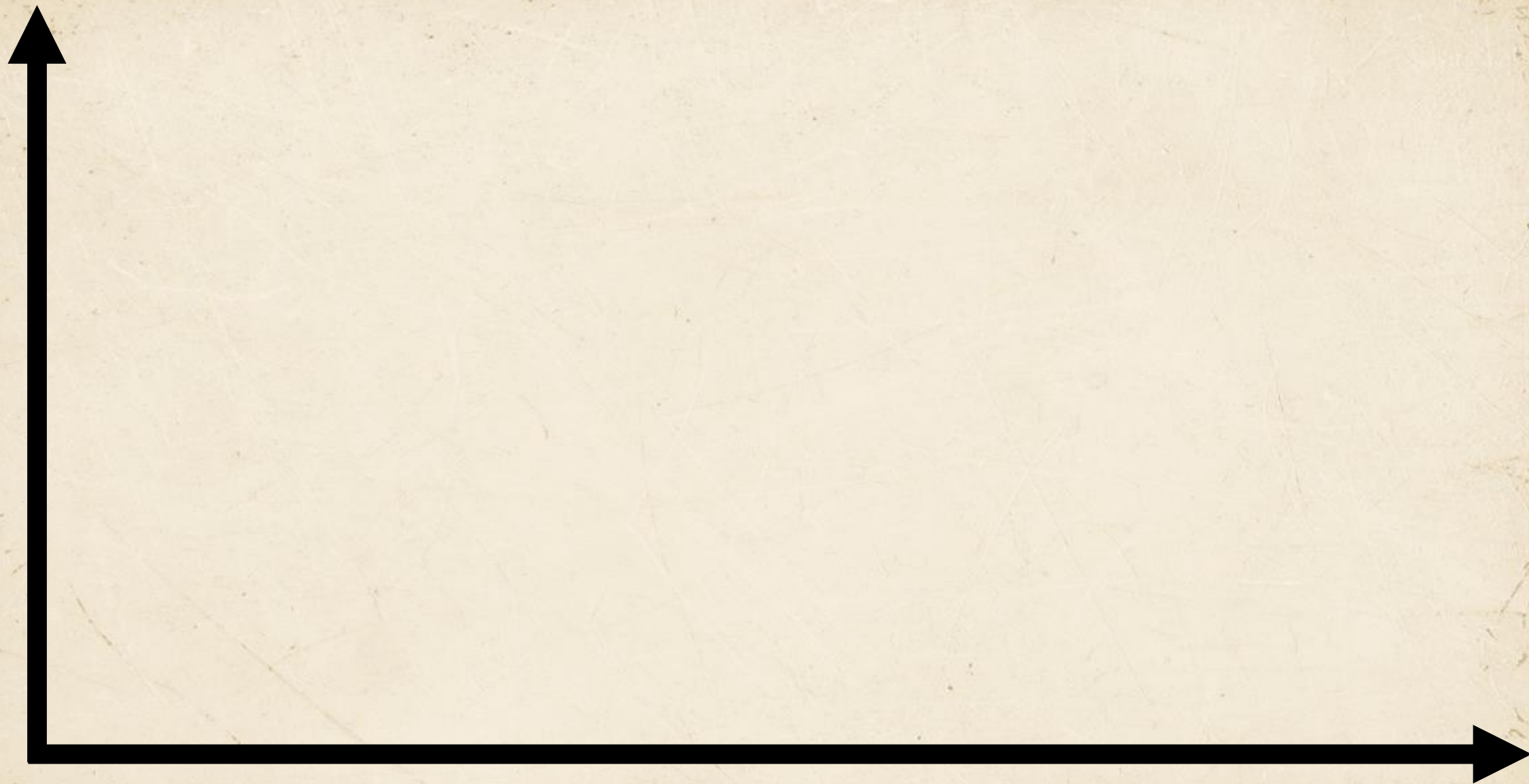


HOLINESS



HOLINESS

TIME



We struggle.



Jesus saves.

For we know that the law is spiritual,
but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.

For I do not understand my own
actions. For I do not do what I want,
but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I
do what I do not want, I agree with the
law, that it is good. So now it is no
longer I who do it, but sin that dwells
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law, that it is good. So now it is no
longer I who do it, but sin that dwells
within me.

We struggle.



For I know that nothing good dwells
in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have
the desire to do what is right, but not
the ability to carry it out. For I do not
do the good I want, but the evil I do
not want is what I keep on doing.
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We struggle.



So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

We struggle.



Wretched man that I am! Who will
deliver me from this body of death?

Thanks be to God through Jesus
Christ our Lord!

We struggle.



Jesus saves.

Supporting Us...

2 Corinthians 9:7 *Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give... for God loves a cheerful giver.*

If you feel encouraged to support our ministry you can give electronically today. You can also set up recurring offerings automatically just scan the QR.

If you already support us place this card in the offering plate as a sign of your commitment.

Thanks for your generosity!



Give



RESPONSIVE OFFERING PRAYER



Please stand

P: Lord Jesus, take our hearts and fill them with your love;

C: take our lips and move them to speak of your grace;

P: take our treasures and use them to
serve your church;

C: use our lives to do whatever is
needed to spread the gospel here at
Ascension, in our community, and
around the world, for your mercy's
sake. Amen.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- ✝ Amy Horton's father, Robert Weise is going into transitional care.
- ✝ Peterson Ballah has officially completed all the Discipleship Level courses of the TELL program.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

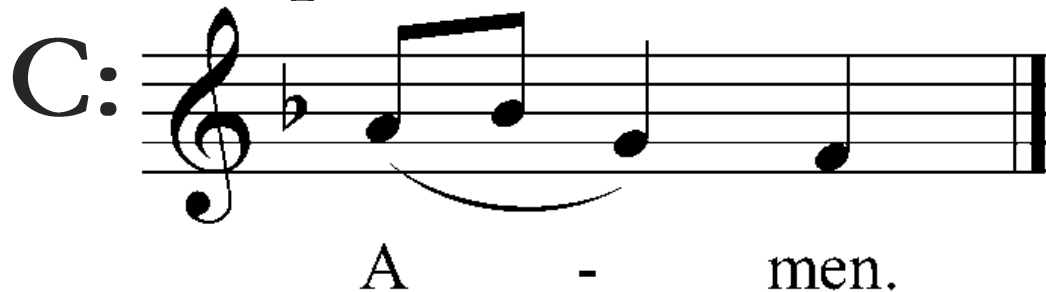
C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

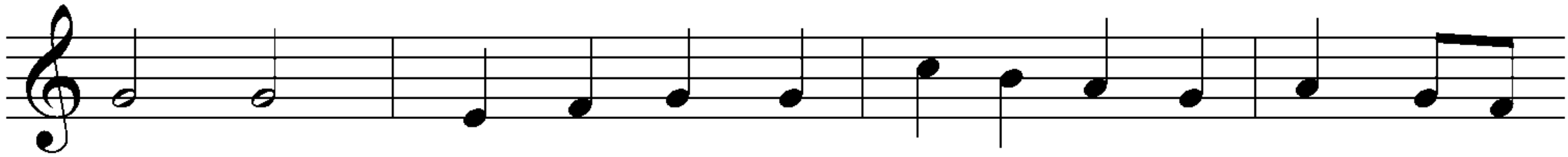
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI: O Christ, Lamb of God



O Christ, Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the

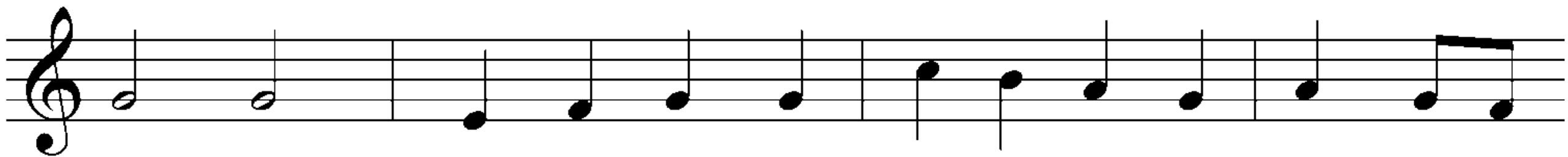


world; have mer-cy on__ us.

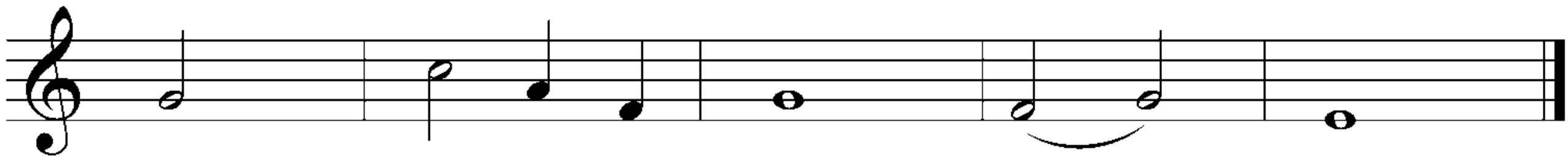
O Christ, Lamb of God, You



take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on__ us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us Your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

Communicant members of Ascension Lutheran and other churches in fellowship in the WELS or ELS are invited to receive the Lord's Supper. If you have never communed with us before, we ask that you first speak with our pastor to learn how you can establish a communing fellowship with us. We are eager to help anyone to take this step.

Please Note: The center cups of the individual trays contain white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are labeled on a separate center tray.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: #660

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

V1. Here, O my Lord,
 I see you face to face;
 here would I touch
 and handle things unseen,
 here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
 and all my weariness upon you lean.

V2.

This is the hour
of banquet and of song;
this is the heav'nly table spread anew.
Here let me feast and,
feasting, still prolong
the brief bright hour
of fellowship with you.

V3.

I have no help

but yours nor do I need

another arm but yours to lean upon.

It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed;

my strength is in your might,

your might alone.

V4.

Mine is the sin
but yours the righteousness;
mine is the guilt
but yours the cleansing blood.
Here is my robe,
my refuge, and my peace:
your blood, your righteousness,
O Lord, my God.

V5.

Too soon we rise,
the vessels disappear;
the feast, though not the love,
is past and gone.
The bread and wine remove,
but you are here,
nearer than ever,
still my shield and sun.

V6. Feast after feast thus
 comes and passes by,
 yet, passing, points
 to the glad feast above,
giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 the Lamb's great marriage feast
 of bliss and love.

The Blessings of
The Lord's Supper

RECEIVE FORGIVENESS OF SINS
LIFE AND SALVATION



PRAYER

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #702 Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake (V.S.1-4)

V1. “Come, follow me,” the Savior spake,
“all in my way abiding;
deny yourselves, the world forsake,
obey my call and guiding.
O bear the cross, whate’er betide,
take my example for your guide.



V2.

“I am the light, I light the way,
a godly life displaying;
I bid you walk as in the day,
I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show
how you must sojourn here below.

V3.

“I teach you how to shun and flee
what harms your soul’s salvation,
your heart from ev’ry guile to free,
from sin and its temptation.

I am the refuge of the soul
and lead you to your heav’nly goal.”

V4.

Then let us follow Christ our Lord
and take the cross appointed
and, firmly clinging to his Word,
in suff'ring be undaunted.

For those who bear the battle's strain
the crown of heav'nly life obtain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONNECTION CARD



Please take a moment and fill out the info on the connection card, located under the Worship Today button on our app or on our website. There is a tablet in entryway or scan the QR code.

Please fill out and submit.



A blue megaphone icon pointing to the right, enclosed within a white circle with an orange border. The circle is decorated with several small blue dots.

SEPTEMBER 13TH

RALLY SUNDAY

Bible Study – 8:30am

Service – 9:30am

Pot Luck – 10:30am



INTERESTED IN
JOINING
CHOIR?

PRACTICES BEGIN
Wed., September 9 @ 7 pm

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NEEDED

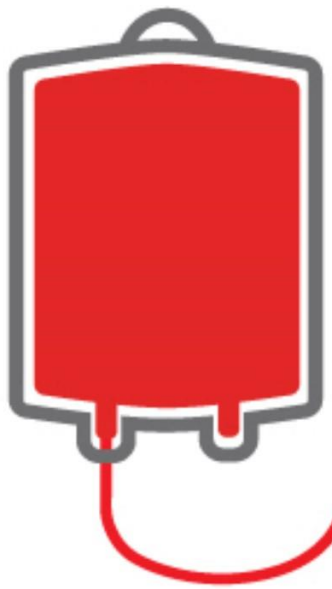


INSTRUMENT INTEREST

***Would you like to share
your talent during church?***

Sign-up available on the **GroupLife**
board or contact Marcia Michalik:
marciamichalik@gmail.com

** open to any talent/any age*



donate *blood*

DONATE LIFE

Give · Donate · Volunteer



Friday, Sept. 18 | 10am - 4pm

Kindness is in your blood

**VOLUNTEER
ON OUR APP:**



**TO
DONATE:**



THANKS FOR SERVING

- ✚ Pianist/Organist: Cindy Steinke
- ✚ AV Team
- ✚ Serving: Flock #2 – Eric Olson

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